
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH

Mission

The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Safety and Health develops, manages, and directs comprehensive programs that provide effective health and safety policy for protecting the health and safety of workers, and the safety of facility and systems operations at all Department of Energy facilities. The office also maintains a formal liaison role with external safety and health regulators and with internal DOE program and line elements and with contractor organizations relating to health and safety policy and regulatory issues. The Office develops and manages many Departmental wide health and safety programs designed to improve safety performance.

Functions

1. Develops, coordinates, and promulgates Departmental policy, Orders, and standards relating to safety and health of workers, DOE facilities, and working conditions. Serves as a focal point for the Department for all legislative and national (nuclear and non-nuclear) safety and health policy and regulatory issues.
2. Establishes state-of-the-art programs, policies, and standards, that assures protection of the Department's Federal and contractor personnel from occupational injury and illness and assures safety of facility design and operations.
3. Works with the Office of Planning and Administration to develop health and safety training criteria and strategies and ensure the adequacy of training related to the health and safety of Department of Energy and contractor employees.
4. Develops departmental policies and guidance and implementing strategies related to the specialized safety disciplines of nuclear safety, health physics, industrial hygiene, fire protection, electrical safety, high explosives, firearms safety, pressure safety, and chemical safety. Establishes policy and guidance and evaluates risk assessment processes in the Department of Energy regarding workers safety.
5. Serves as the primary Department of Energy's liaison with the Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on health and safety regulation reviews and pending regulatory reform.
6. Maintains nuclear safety and occupational safety and health technical expertise and provides the Department of Energy complex with consultative services to assist them in understanding and implementing policies, standards, and guidance, in response to compliance and program requirement issues.
7. Assures that an integrated and strategic approach is implemented within the Office to address customer and stakeholder needs.

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8. Assures application of quality elements into all activities of the Office. Manages quality activities consistent with DOE quality assurance requirements, the Total Quality Initiatives of the Department, and the Assistant Secretary. Benchmarks all Office activities against "Best in Class".
9. Participates in support of the Office of Planning and Management, in the Strategic Planning and Program Planning Processes. Ensures that work plans conforms to priorities resulting from these processes.